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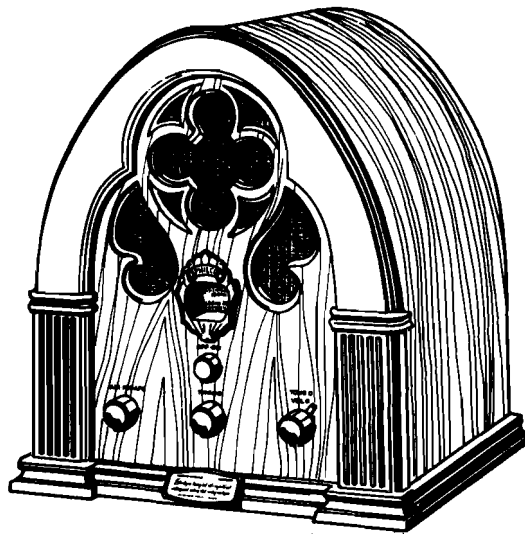
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THE ILLUSTRATED PRESS #9

MARCH 1977

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE OTRCOB

Welcome to new member Bob McDivitt and to Mike Collins, the club's first associate member.

MINUTES: Several items were discussed at the February 14th OTRCOB meeting. Vice-President Ray Olivieri was put in charge of collecting nominations for prospective honorary members. Any member with nominations for honorary members should write to Ray at the club's mailing address. The names will be presented to the membership for approval.

Member-at-Large Stuart Mann suggested that the club obtain T-shirts and/or iron-on decals. Possible designs for the T-shirts are to be submitted at the March meeting.

Millie Dunworth and Dom Parisi surprised everyone at the meeting with a birthday cake for the club. Pictures of the cake and some of the members are in this newsletter. Many thanks, Millie and Dom.

Grand

NOW!

Shows:
1 - 2:40
4:20 - 6
7:40 - 9:20



GANGBUSTERS

THE FACTUAL STORY OF PUBLIC ENEMY NO. 4
THE ORIGINAL CRIME EXPOSE
Script by PHILLIPS & LIND



AND

COLOR CARTOON
"3 LITTLE PUPS"

TONIGHT AT 7:30



dial CBS 940 WMAZ
AMOS 'N' ANDY

DEADLINES: From now on, the deadline for each issue of the Press will be the third Monday of the preceding month.

NEW MEMBERS: Michael Collins (son of Jerry), 56 Christen Court, Lancaster, New York 14086
Bob McDivitt, 70 Southcrest Avenue, Cheektowaga, New York 14225
Bruce Tidball, 1434 Jones #6, San Francisco, California 94109

NBHF: The club is donating a subscription to all of its publications to the recently established National Broadcasters Hall of Fame. Arthur Schreiber is the moving force behind the project, which a non-profit effort. The Hall itself will be open in May, and will feature an extensive collection of early radio equipment, scripts, photos, personal memorabilia, and other related items. A large display hall will allow visitors to view these items, and a mini-theater will offer visitors a recap of the industry. This sounds really terrific and certainly deserves our support. If you want more information, write the National Broadcasters Hall of Fame, West Main Street, Freehold, New Jersey 07728.

NRT: Member Phil Cole's National Radio Trader, rapidly becoming an important part of OTR fandom, carries free club listings and news. Phil has recently offered us a free ad. NRT subscriptions are \$8.00 per year (4 issues) from Phil Cole, Box 1147, Mount Vernon, Washington 98273. It's invaluable for collectors.

NRN: Al Rockford, co-editor of the Nostalgia Radio News and co-host of THE SOUNDS OF YESTERDAY, is being given a raw deal from his former employer, station WONO. This is a poor reward for his years of volunteer effort on both the SOY and the NRN (not associated with WONO). Al's broadcasting career is in jeopardy and he needs support. Write him at Box 24, Liverpool, NY 13088 and listen to the SOY on WCNY-FM (91.3) on Saturdays (5:30-8PM) or on WRVO-FM (89.9) on Fridays (8:05-10:35PM). While you're at it, subscribe to the Nostalgia Radio News.

TRADES: The OTRCOB is now trading publications with Thomas Riggs and Bob Burnham. Tom publishes an OTR magazine titled The Great Radio Shows four times a year. He also sent a vertible wealth of extras, including Sgt. Preston gum-cards, CAPTAIN MIDNIGHT and AMOS 'N' ANDY cut-outs, and posters of THE LONE RANGER, AMOS 'N' ANDY, and CAPTAIN MIDNIGHT. These items will be in the reference library.

Bob has been producing News and Reviews for three years. The latest issue

After listening to Ted Darling call the Buffalo Sabres' game at Montreal I don't understand why he did it on WGR Radio but not on WKBW-TV as he usually does.
— M. D.

I heard Ted Darling do the Sabres game in Montreal and then saw him the next day in Lockport. How did he get back so fast in the snowstorm? — J. T., Lockport.

Neither of your questions would have been raised if Darling had given an explanation of his whereabouts during the game — Ted did the play-by-play of the Montreal game from his home — his family room in Lockport.

"I couldn't make it to the Forum and couldn't get a substitute announcer," the Voice of the Sabres explains. "So rather than cancel our radio coverage, I decided to do the play-by-play from the TV."

"Our engineer mixed my telephone report with crowd reactions from a live mike at the Forum to give you the flavor of the game," he adds. "I never said I was there or wasn't there."

"My son, Joey, monitored the TV for penalties and time left in the period and would feed me facts on cue cards," Ted says. "The only time I had trouble was on the long TV shots, where player numbers became a little difficult to read."

"We were able to fit all our commercials in, using the same engineer cues we always do," Ted says. "It was the easiest road game I ever worked. After the game, I turned off the small TV set and went to bed."

Darling did an admirable job under trying circumstances, but we feel he should have explained his situation and location to listeners.

Otherwise, it was just like the old baseball broadcasts where an announcer would read tickertape accounts of the game with phony crowd noises in the background.



AP Wirephoto

Richard Burton

'KING RICHARD'—Actor Richard Burton tries on a crown for size at London's Broadcasting House, where he is recording the role of storyteller in BBC Radio 4's "Vivat Rex," a 26-week drama series. The series dramatizes the course of English rule through 200 years of its bloodiest history.

contains technical articles on patch-cords and a high frequency filter, tape ratings, a list of traders, an OZZIE AND HARRIET log, and a column by OTRCOB member Hy Daley. This, too, will be in the club reference library.

TAPESPONDENTS: Carl Barnum, 1909 Fair Oaks Road, Kingsport, Tennessee 37664--- Wanted: Kate Smith programs sponsored by La Palino Cigars with Ted Collins as M.C.; Al Jolson; Charlie McCarthy; Judy Canova; AMOS 'N' ANDY; Jack Benny; Fred Allen; Red Skelton; BURNS AND ALLEN; Eddie Cantor; and FIBBER MCGEE AND MOLLY.

John Wells, RD #1, Chittenango, NY 13037--- Wanted: TV soundtrack from Jack Benny's first farewell special in early 1973; and Dean Martin Celebrity Roast of Jack Benny.

TAPE LIBRARY: Good ol' Hy Daley has come through again, this time with the donation of a reel of first generation shows taken from some of the discs that he found buried in mud. Thanks, Hy.

R-21 (1200') (4-track) (\$.75/month)

BING CROSBY MORNING SHOW (CBS)

- 11/25/48 w/Bob Crosby
- 11/26/48 w/Les Paul
- 11/29/48 w/Joe Venuti
- 11/30/48 w/Russ Morgan
- 12/9/48 w/Ella Fitzgerald
- 12/10/48 w/Peggy Lee

all above 15 min. each, sponsored by Minute Maid Orange Juice

TOWN HALL TONIGHT 1/15/36

w/Fred Allen, sponsor is Ipana, 1st half only

BURNS AND ALLEN CAMPBELL'S SHOW

"Hollywood Part" 1/15/36

BUG HOUSE RHYTHM

"Minnie the Moocher's Wedding Day" 12/28/36, 15 min.

CHRISTMAS SEALS SHOW

w/Jimmy Durante & Garry Moore, 1948

SHELL CHATEAU

- 10/26/35 w/Wallace Beery, Judy Garland, Parts 1 & 3 only
- 8/8/36 w/Smith Ballou, Humphery Bogart, Parts 2 & 4 only

January 9, 1977

GRIT Family Section 15

RETURN WITH US TO...

by Bill Owen
D. Sherwood '74

RUDY VALLEE

RUDY VALLEE WAS A GENUINE SUPER-STAR LONG BEFORE THE TERM WAS COINED... HE WAS HOST AND PRODUCER OF THE FLEISCHMANN HOUR FROM 1929-39, INTRODUCING TO RADIO AUDIENCES SUCH FUTURE STARS AS EDGAR BERGEN, CARMEN MIRANDA, EDDIE CANTOR, ALICE FAYE AND BOB BURNS. THE ALDRICH FAMILY BEGAN AS A SEGMENT OF HIS SHOW.



VALLEE WAS ASSOCIATED WITH MANY SONGS INCLUDING HIS LONG-TIME THEME... "MY TIME IS YOUR TIME." HE FREQUENTLY SALUTED THE UNIVERSITY OF MAINE WHICH HE ATTENDED IN 1921 BEFORE GOING TO YALE.

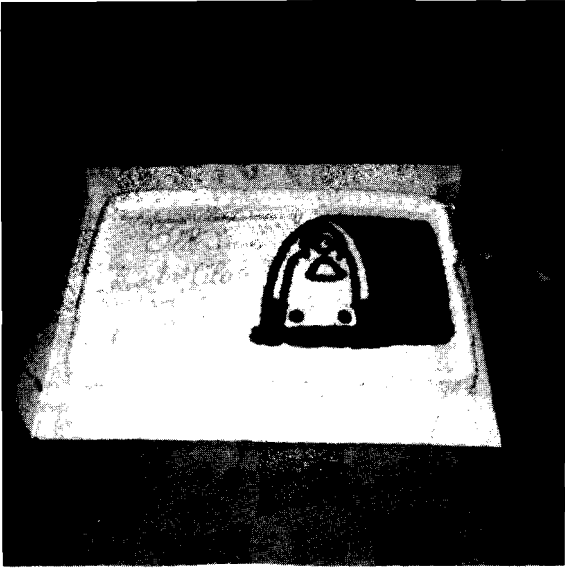
THE VOICE OF RUDY VALLEE WAS FAMILIAR TO MILLIONS AS WERE CROSBY, SINATRA AND COMO TO A LATER GENERATION.

© SHERWOOD AND OWEN 1976

YOU HAVE A DATE
TONIGHT
WITH
Blondie

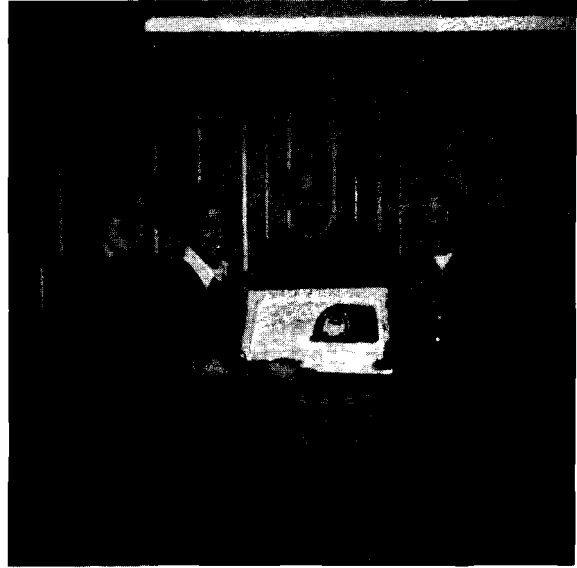
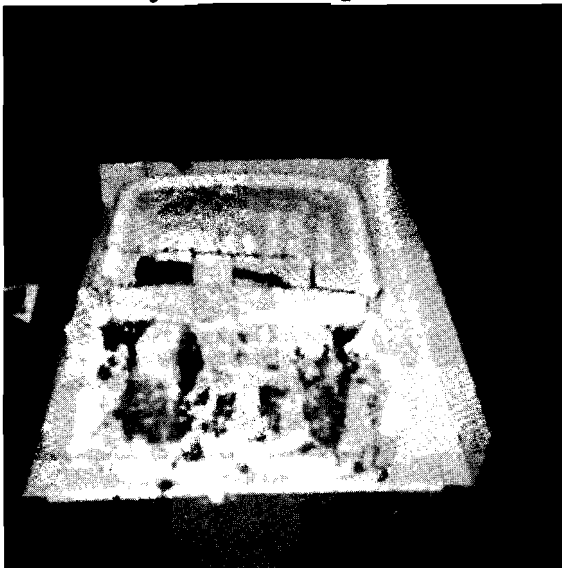
Listen and laugh with Penny Singleton and Arthur Lake, America's great comedy team. On the air for CAMEL.

WMAZ 9:30 P. M.

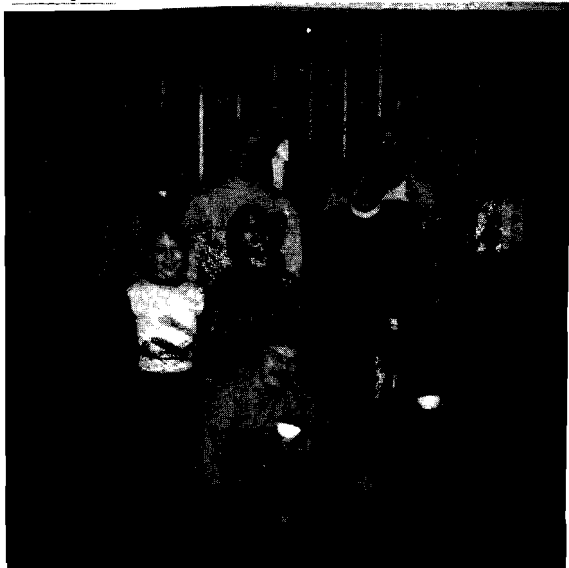


Above is the beautiful (and delicious) cake that Millie Dunworth and Dom Parisi surprised us with. The frosting reads, "Happy Anniversary, Old Time Radio Club of Buffalo". The surprise had been planned for January, but the blizzard cancelled that.

Below is what was left of the cake scant minutes after the business meeting was adjourned. Contrary to public belief, your editor only had two pieces.



Meet your hard-working officers. Above, left to right, are Secretary Sharon Andrews, Treasurer Dom P. Parisi, President Pete Bellanca, and Vice-President Ray Olivieri. Below, left to right, kneeling, are Bob McDivitt and Frank Matesic. Standing, first row, Mike Collins, Ed Wanat, Jr., and Millie Dunworth. Second row, Jerry Collins, Ed Wanat, Sr., Chuck Tromble, and Member-At-Large Stuart Mann. Standing alone in the back, and peeking over Ed Wanat, Sr. is Richard Hluchan.



HOW TV SUCKED RADIO DRY - THE BIG BRAIN DRAIN.....by Hy Daley

Those of you who've read this column have followed TV's brain drain of radio Monday through Wednesday on prime time in 1951. This installment hits Thursday and Friday nights. And what nights they are!!

At 7:30PM, your good friend THE LONE RANGER rides the tube trail on Thursdays. The Lone Ranger is not Brace Beemer, and Tonto is not John Todd, and Silver is not two coconut shells!! One thing I remember from the TV LONE RANGER (I was six in 1950) was that the rocks on the show looked like cardboard. Were they??

At 8PM, four old radio programs competed for tube time. BURNS AND ALLEN alternated with the GARRY MOORE EVENING SHOW. Garry's vocalists were Ken Carson, who sang the Lustre Creme shampoo jingle on radio's DENNIS DAY SHOW, and Denise Lor.

"That hilarious, unconventional man with the wag-gling eyebrows", Groucho Marx, did his YOU BET YOUR LIFE thing also at 8PM. The duck did not appear on radio.

Another quiz show with the "Southern gentleman", Bert Parks, also ran at 8PM. Bertie gave away coins up to \$15,000! Entertainers on the show included Kay Armen, who also sang on the radio version of the show. Oh, yeahthe show was STOP THE MUSIC.



At 8:30PM, AMOS 'N' ANDY came to the tube. Andy was played by Spencer Williams, while Kingfish was enacted by Tim Moore. The TV Guide describes Kingfish as roguish and twinkling, and Andy as portly and romantic. "I'se regusted!" is all I can say.....

Also at 8:30, Walter Greaza stars in TREASURY MEN IN ACTION, a look at cases from the actual files of the US Treasury Department! Shades of Phil Lord!! Greaza was a radio graduate of THE FBI IN PEACE AND WAR, BIG TOWN (he played Steve Wilson!), THE RIGHT TO HAPPINESS (soap), BUCK ROGERS, and LORA LAWTON (another soap).

At 9PM, we have THE ALAN YOUNG SHOW, THE FORD FESTIVAL, ELLERY QUEEN, and THE HERB SHRINER SHOW to choose from. Alan Young of recent (1961-1966) MR. ED fame (?) had a show, in the late Forties, on radio which wasn't too funny, if the shows I have are any example. THE FORD FESTIVAL included James Melton, Dorothy Warenskjold, Dr. Roy K. Marshall, and Frank Black's orchestra. The great tenor Melton was an old radio veteran, having starred in HARVEST OF STARS, ROXY'S GAME, THE TELEPHONE HOUR, and THE CHICAGO THEATER OF THE AIR. Ms. Warenskjold had done one summer as stand-in for Gordon MacRae on THE RAILROAD HOUR. Black's orchestra had backed up Melton on HARVEST OF STARS and he had also been an early orchestra leader with Jack Benny.

ELLERY QUEEN was no stranger to radio. His radio vestiges included Larry Dobkin and Carleton Young, but for TV he had to be the he-man type, so the producers found ex-hockey star Lee Bowman to put the murders on ice. Lee had done some radio work on the obscure JONATHON KEGG program and the audition for Lucille Ball's MY FAVORITE HUSBAND.

Herb Shriner had been a regular on the CAMEL COMEDY CARAVAN on the crystal set. The TV Guide compares him to Will Rogers. Hmmm.....

Speaking of BIG TOWN (above), this radio show took to the TV air-waves at 9:30. Radio Steve Wilsons had been Edward G. Robinson and Walter Greaza, but the tube's Illustrated Press reporter was Pat McVey. His Lorelei was Julie Stevens, late of the ABBOTT MYSTERIES, THE ROAD OF LIFE, and KITTY FOYLE. At the same time, the famous watch company sponsored THE GRUEN THEATER, filmed in Hollywood.

At 10PM, Reed Hadley, who was great as RED RYDER and not too bad in

FRONTIER TOWN ((Leave us not forget "Zorro's Fighting Legion", the 1939 Republic serial.--Ed.)), stars as Captain Braddock, the head of RACKET SQUAD.

Hollywood's most enthusiastic square dancer, Lloyd Nolan, competes with Reed at 10PM in MARTIN KANE, PRIVATE EYE. Radio's Martin Kane was William Gargan, but I guess he couldn't square dance.

At 10:30PM I had a real surprise. Now, CASEY, CRIME PHOTOGRAPHER with Staats Cotsworth is one of my favorite radio detectives. But to find that he too was sucked in by TV....too much!! Casey was Darren McGavin (yes, he's still around).

And now to Friday night.

At 7:30, LIFE WITH LINKLETTER alternated with SAY IT WITH ACTING, and JUVENILE JURY vied for viewing. Anyone familiar with PEOPLE ARE FUNNY will recognize Art's style, while SAY IT WITH ACTING was a charades game, featuring SUPERMAN Bud Collyer and Maggi McNellis, a radio interviewer probably best remembered for a Forties women's lib program called LEAVE IT TO THE GIRLS.

Jack Barry's JUVENILE JURY was lifted directly from radio, set in front of cameras, and showed the uninhibited small fry outsmarting their parents, celebrities, and Congressmen (so what's new?).

At 8PM, MAMA, THE GOLDBERGS, and MYSTERY THEATER filled the living room. MAMA, a totally TV inspired family show, was one of my favorites as a small boy. "T.R." was my favorite, and I also remember the annual Christmas show when the animals talked. Gertrude Berg brought her fantastic show to TV and "showed" the troubles and tribulations of this famous Bronx family. MYSTERY THEATER was really THE FALCON in disguise. Tom Conway, the sixth or so Falcon, played Inspector Saber of the homicide squad. Conway had also done his bit as THE SAINT and

SHERLOCK HOLMES.

At 8:30, MAN AGAINST CRIME and WE, THE PEOPLE aired. In the former, one of my favorites, Ralph Bellamy, played the rough, tough, and brainy private eye Mike Barnett. This CBS show was on radio in 1949 and got sucked up by TV in the early Fifties. Ralph was also the radio Mike Barnett.

I've heard some WE, THE PEOPLE radio shows, and it was an interesting program, with newsy tidbits about common folks who had done something special. Radio's Dan seymour MCed the show. Dan's radio credits include the HENRY MORGAN SHOW and DICK TRACY.

At 9PM, you could watch PLAYHOUSE OF STARS with Helen Hayes and Walter Hampton, BIG STORY with Bob Sloane, or DOWN YOU GO, which was a TV version of "Hang the Butcher", a game my kids in study hall still play when they're bored. The panel consisted of that great TV commercial actress, Carmelita Pope (remember her greaseless pots?), and Toni Gilman, star of LIFE BEGINS, WOMAN IN WHITE, and YOUNG WIDDER BROWN.

THE ALDRICH FAMILY came on at 9:30. Henry was played by a real Henry--- Henry Garrard from Mississippi. At 9:30 also was TV's version of DIMENSION X and X MINUS ONE, namely TALES OF TOMMORROW.

At 10PM, Jimmy Powers brought Madison Square Garden boxing to you, while Channel 5 brought you the CAVALCADE OF STARS with Gleeful Gleason (Jackie). Although Jackie didn't do a lot of radio work, I do have several HOLLYWOOD OPEN HOUSE show discs where he guest stars.

Finally, at 10:45. THE GREAT FIGHTS OF THE CENTURY flickered in living rooms. Famous fights for the month of November 1951 were Sammy

TONIGHT AT 8:00



—dial CBS 940 - WMAZ

MYSTERY THEATRE

Mandell vs. Jimmy McLarnin, Joe Louis vs. Al Ettore, and Jack Dempsey vs. Jess Willard.

Well, there's Thursday and Friday nights. I hope you've enjoyed this little trip down the black-and-white trail of nostalgia and have seen how TV did indeed suck radio dry.
 ---Hy Daley

OLD MARCH: March 1, 1920: Dinah Shore born.

- March 1, 1932: Lindbergh baby kidnapped.
- March 1, 1941: DUFFY'S TAVERN becomes a regular series.
- March 4, 1933: FDR is inaugurated as President.
- March 6, 1908: Lou Costello born.
- March 7, 1936: Hitler sends German troops into the Rhineland.
- March 12, 1933: FDR's first Fireside Chat.
- March 18, 1965: First spacewalk by Alexei Leonov.
- March 28, 1939: Madrid falls to General Franco's rebels.
- March 28, 1947: Last BUCK ROGERS radio show, Buck and Killer Kane fight to the finish.

REFERENCE LIBRARY:

Librarian Pete Bellanca informs me that we owe belated thanks to Stanley Steinberg for items he has donated to the library. So, sorry, Stan, and thanks.

SCRIPTS:

If you have a script, or other paper OTR items, the OTRCOB would like to reproduce them for the members. Just send us the item, we'll reproduce it, and send it back to you undamaged. We're especially interested in scripts for the I LOVE A MYSTERY "Blue Phantom Murders." We have episodes one through six, and we need the remainder. The "extras" included in the newsletter have been very well received, so help us continue to serve the members if you can.

SOUND MEMORIES:

Some few months ago, your editor queried some members about their feelings concerning a special issue of Memories on tape. None of them were very excited about it, but I think it's a good idea. Let me know what you think, and, if you like the idea, what you would like to do for it.

STUDIO B
PROGRAM GUIDE
FOR DECEMBER 1976
WDBQ RADIO
1490

- | | |
|--|--|
| 6- JACK BENNY SHOW - Elephants Graveyard | 13- JACK BENNY SHOW - The Cast Packs For Palm Springs |
| 7- YOURS TRULY, JOHNNY DOLLAR - The Mad Bomber | 14- QUIET PLEASE - Pathetic Fallacy |
| 8- GREAT GILDERSLEEVE - Gildy Writes A Song | 15- RED SKELTON |
| 9- SUSPENSE - Sorry Wrong Number | 16- ESCAPE - A Shipment Of Mute Fate |
| 10- EDDIE CANTOR | 17- OZZIE & HARRIET
Ozzie Enters A Bowling Tournament |

<p>STUDIO "B" MONDAY THRU FRIDAY AT 2:30 a.m. & 6:30 p.m.</p>		<p>BIG BROADCAST Sunday From 8:00 P.M. until Midnight HALL CLOSET Monday thru Friday At 7:15 a.m. 10:25 p.m.</p>
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- | | |
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| 20- JACK BENNY SHOW - A Christmas Party | 27- JACK BENNY SHOW - Dennis Has A Cold |
| 21- AMDS & ANDY - Andy Plays Santa | 28- THE SHADOW - The Creeper |
| 22- OUR MISS BROOKS - A Magic Xmas Tree | 29- THE MEL BLANC SHOW |
| 23- FIBBER MCGEE & MOLLY - McGee's Present | 30- ACADEMY AWARD THEATER - Mafese Falcon |
| 24- A CHRISTMAS CARD - Starring The WDBQ Staff | 31- THE BIG BANDS ON NEW YEARS EVE |

- December 1st - THE ALDRICH FAMILY - Henry Falls On The Ice
- December 2nd - HOPALONG CASSIDY - Stagecoach West
- December 3rd - MY FRIEND IRMA - Mr. Clyde's Race Horse

Member Bill Zwack co-hosts STUDIO B.
 Don't Miss The Special STUDIO B MEMORY CLUB December 21, 1976 With Chapter Three Of CAPTAIN MARVEL Plus An All - Star Cartoon Program With Mickey Mouse, Donald Duck, Bugs Bunny, Tweety Pie, Tom & Jerry And More. Admission Is Just \$1.00 At The Julien Motor Inn Crown Gallery. Showtime Is 7:30 P.M. Everyone Is Welcome!!!!

RADIO ON TV: Remember MAJOR HOOPLE (the radio show, not the "Our Boarding House" cartoon)? Frank Bresee, who played Little Alvin on that show, did a radio talk show here in Buffalo recently. He mentioned that he's doing a special for the CBS owned-and-operated TV stations to be called THE GOLDEN DAYS OF RADIO ON TV. The show will be a pilot for a possible series and should air this spring. If you live in an area served by a CBS o&o, you might watch out for it and review it for us. By the way, Bresee is the creator of such party games as "Passout," "Sip and Go Naked," "Getcha!", and "Tic Tac Strip."

FM: According to a CBS survey, the nationwide FM share of the total radio audience keeps getting larger and larger. In the evening, there are now nearly as many FM listeners as AM listeners and, in some periods such as Sunday evening, FM has a greater audience than AM.

SURVEYS: The deadline for the November surveys is March 21. Next month, you'll see the results. I think you'll be surprised.

REVIEW: Airways #4, February 1977, is their best issue to date. The cover feature is Sherlock Holmes, with a good article and a log of the Hobbs and Shelley BBC HOLMES programs. Also in this issue are an interview with Ed Blainey, an OTR soundman, and another installment of the history of OTR collecting. Next issue, they promise more Holmes and an interview with Jackson Beck. Subscriptions are \$6.00 per 12 issues from Airwaves, 438 W. Neptune, NIU, DeKalb, Illinois 60115. Recommended.

WNYPCS: If you enjoy other phases of nostalgia besides radio, you might be interested in the Western New York Popular Culture Society. This group is into all forms of things past. They publish a monthly 12 page newsletter and an annual magazine. Dues for members outside the Western New York area are \$10.00 a year and well worth it. Write Richard Hurst, B&ECHS, 25 Nottingham Court, Buffalo, NY 14216, if interested.

Heart Attack Was Cause MARCH 19 1956

Allen Died Only Hours After Medical Checkup

NEW YORK, March 18 [UP] — Fred Allen, baggy-eyed comedian who died on a New York City street last night, succumbed of a heart attack only hours after a doctor had given him a clean bill of health, his family said today.

Allen, who would have been 62 in May, was stricken while out for his regular evening stroll with his dog. An autopsy performed today showed that the cause of death was a heart attack, although yesterday morning his doctor said his blood pressure and an electrocardiograph registered normal.

The death of the droll humorist who spoofed the whole world, including himself, plunged his fellow entertainers into mourning. But his associates followed the old theatrical "show-must-go-on" tradition by going ahead with the regular Sunday night presentation of "What's My Line," a television show on which Allen had appeared for two years.

No Special Program

His replacement on the show was comedian Steve Allen, no relation. The dead comedian's wife, Portland Hoffa, requested that no special program of tribute be staged.

In Hollywood, comedian Jack Benny, privately a close friend of Allen's but who feuded with him publicly for years, was stunned.

"This is a most shocking thing," Benny said. "The American public has lost its greatest wit. Fred's humor and brilliance was comparable to that of Will Rogers."

"I know that I have lost a very dear and treasured friend. I spoke to his wife, Portland, this morning and was stunned to find out that Fred had been given a clean bill of health on a physical checkup yesterday."

Allen's brother-in-law and attorney, Arthur A. Hershkowitz, said the medical examination was a routine one and that Allen had been feeling fit for some time.

The doctor said Allen once had suffered from high blood pressure, which forced him to ease up on his radio and television work. But Allen had overcome the condition in recent years, the doctor said.



FRED ALLEN

Funeral Tuesday

The funeral will be held at 10 a.m. Tuesday at St. Malachy's Roman Catholic Church, just off Times Square, known as the "actor's chapel," because it attracted many Broadway show people. Allen and his wife were married in the church in 1922 and worshipped there every Sunday.

Burial will be in Gate of Heaven Cemetery in Westchester county.

Mrs. Allen, who appeared with her husband on his "Town Hall Tonight" NBC radio series for years, was reported to be under a physician's care.

"Portland is in very bad shape," said Bill Todman, co-producer of "What's My Line." "It was a real close wonderful relationship such as you don't find very often."

Allen, born John Florence Sullivan, May 31, 1894, rose to the top of the entertainment profession.

The fame and following that Allen acquired on radio did not follow him on TV. He died while most of his fellow entertainers were gathered at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel a few blocks away for the annual Academy of Tele-

vision Arts and Sciences "Emmy" award dinner.

Mrs. Allen usually accompanied her husband on his nightly strolls, but last night she stayed home. Allen was stricken in front of an apartment house near where he lived. He was carried into the lobby and was pronounced dead.

A party had been underway in the building where Allen was taken. Leonard Lyons, a columnist for the New York Post, had just left the party and recognized Allen.

OBITUARIES: Virginia Payne---- died February 10, 66 years old. Virginia played the role of MA PERKINS for the entire 27 year run of the CBS radio soap opera. She was only 22 when she auditioned for the part in Cincinnati, and moved to Chicago when the show went network. She never missed a performance. She and 15 other Chicago performers formed a union which later became the American Federation of Radio Artists, and was the first woman president of any national entertainment union when she later became National President of the American Federation of Television and Radio Artists. (Last October 28, a Mrs. Delorys Dahlene died, and it was claimed that she was the original Ma Perkins, which conflicts with the information above. Anybody know for sure?)

Father James Keller---- died February 7, 76 years old. Keller was a longtime radio and TV personality and was a frequent speaker in both media. In the mid-Forties, Keller negotiated with CBS on the possibility of a network series dealing with various exploits and experiences of Maryknoll missionaries overseas. Since the proper priestly image insisted on by the Maryknoll order conflicted with radio writers' concepts of suspense, the series never got off the ground.

Andy Devine---- died February 18, 70 years old. Besides Devine's careers in films and TV, he played parts on such radio shows as THE JACK BENNY SHOW (1935-1940), LUM AND ABNER, THE FITCH BAND WAGON, and MELODY ROUND-UP.

Quincy Howe---- died February 17, 76 years old. Howe began his broadcast career with WQXR, NY, in 1939 and in 1942, moved to CBS News. He became a news commentator and was credited with making radio news analysis a standard industry practice. CBS dropped him, when a sponsor objected to him, from his evening news spot, but, oddly, CBS executives pointed him out as a model.

Eddie Anderson---- died February 28, 72 years old. Anderson, better known to millions as "Rochester," was the first black actor to have a regular role on a network radio show. He began his role on THE JACK BENNY SHOW in 1937, and worked with Benny for over 30 years. An example of their friendship: the name "Rochester" was copyrighted and Benny sold it to Anderson for \$1.00. The name was worth thousands.

SIGN OFF: We've got all kinds of good stuff lined up for next issue. We now have available for use here a whole bunch of OTR ads and schedules. You'll find a lot to read and look at in the future, more immediately, in the April Illustrated Press.

Special thanks to Millie Dunworth for producing this issue.



WRITE!!! Editor, OTRCOB, P.O. Box 119, Kenmore, New York 14217

OLD RADIO SHOW

On Sunday afternoon, Feb. 27, 1977, Club President Peter Bellanca, Editor Charles Seeley, Librarian Frank Matesic and myself, visited the Old Amherst Colony Museum Park in Amherst, N. Y. - just outside of Buffalo. The occasion? - - To view a display of Antique radios and other related items. Admission was \$2.00, the coffee and doughnuts were good, and Frank wanted to stop overnite because the Museum is located so far from Buffalo (about 18 miles). Just kidding Frank! Below is a write up that appeared in the Buffalo Courier Express the following Monday morning: ---

D. P. Parisi

Antique Radios Attract 100

Strange Brand Names Recall Good Old Days

Atwater-Kent, Federal and Masterpiece may not be top name brands today, but the folks who visited the Old Amherst Colony Museum Park on Sunday were pretty impressed with them.

The names are those of some of the early wireless and radio sets that were on display Sunday afternoon at the museum. More than 100 persons stopped in to take a look at the strange-looking gear that paved the way for the tiny plastic-box radios of today.

The exhibits consisted of the museum's own collection, some of which was donated by Ivan Brooks, director of technical exhibits, plus some private gear displayed by local radio buffs.

Typical of the private collectors was Raymond J. Sieracki of Lackawanna, who described how he and his fiancée, Karen Juhasz of Kenmore, spent their spare time for several weeks restoring a 1925 Freshman Masterpiece radio.

Electrical Shop Class

Sieracki, who became interested in vintage radios through a high school electrical shop class, said he has found the pieces in his collection mainly by word of mouth from friends.

Sunday's program also included a sale and swap session, a film on the development of radio and a lecture by Richard Schamberger, a local collector, on how to build a power supply for an old radio.



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Karen Juhasz demonstrates 1925 "Freshman Masterpiece"

... during antique radio exhibit in Amherst